

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 802

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Ross Elzie Williams for his meritorious service as a member of the United States Army.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should honor those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Ross Elzie Williams, a proud and decorated veteran of the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, born on January 9, 1924, in Algood, Mr. Williams was the fourth of seven children and grew up on a large family farm; and

WHEREAS, at the age of nineteen, Ross Williams enlisted in the United States Army in support of his nation during World War II and completed Basic Infantry Training in Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, he subsequently joined the 351st Infantry "Spear Head" Regiment, 88th Infantry "Blue Devils" Division at Camp Patrick Henry, where the entire Division departed aboard a Liberty ship destined for Africa; and

WHEREAS, following a short stop in Casablanca, Morocco, Mr. Williams and the Blue Devils crossed the Mediterranean Sea and pushed hard for Italy, where they engaged in battles in Naples, Salerno, Volturno, and Cassino; and

WHEREAS, conflicts intensified with several battles when the 351st Infantry moved into Germany, pushing the adversary north until May 31, 1945, when the war ended for the 88th Infantry Division; and

WHEREAS, during his years of exemplary military service, Mr. Williams helped ensure our nation's safety and sovereignty; for his astute service, he was duly awarded a Combat Infantry Badge during his time in Italy, a Purple Heart, and a Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, Ross Williams is a devoted civic leader and proud veteran who truly epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Ross Elzie Williams for his honorable and astute service to the United States Army and the good people of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.